

INTERROGATION REPORT  
134TH INF REGT  
IPW 60

9 Dec 44

1 PW from 5th Co, 37th Regt, 17 SS Div

PW with his company, about 80 men in combat strength, came into position about 2100 on 7 Dec. They came from a position about 2 km north of SARREGUEMINES along the river. On the march between the two positions they did not observe any military activity. The 5th Co came alone from this previous position, but PW believes that two other companies are in position along side of them at their present location. The 5th Co has the region about the porcelain factory (518567); the 3d Co has a front along the river extending further towards the city; the 2nd Co has a front extending along the river from the factory towards the RR bridge.

The PW gave the following locations at which he says there were heavy mgs:

On 1/50,000 map:	519566 .	On Photo Mosaic #3:	GC0481
" "	" : 520564 .	" " "	" : G08453
" "	" : 517566 .	" " "	" : F68487
" "	" : 517567 .	" " "	" : F70515

The company is supposed to have between 14 and 20 mgs in total. At the last position they occupied there were two 80 mm mortars attached and it is pre-  
sumable that these are still with the company.

The CO of the company is Lt Siesteck. The Regtl CO is Col. Launer.

The mission of the company as known to PW was purely defensive. They merely occupied their present position, and not only did not take part in the counter-attack yesterday, but were not even aware of it. From their position they have direct observation on the RR bridge: when asked why they did not fire at troops they observed crossing the bridge yesterday PW replied that the range was too great and "it would not have done any good anyway".

PW did not have any tanks or combat vehicles attached to company. During the night he heard heavy vehicles of some sort moving at an estimated 2 km to the rear. He is unable to estimate direction or number.

PW was captured in the following manner. ~~A~~ A man on patrol from our 2nd battalion became separated from the rest of his patrol and in attempting to get back to our lines went near the porcelain factory. The PW saw him here and seized the opportunity to desert by taking the American soldier back to our lines. None of the other Germans in the area saw the incident. PW did not report that the morale of others in his unit was equally low: he however was sick to his stomach and sick of the last two weeks spent in the mud.

PW came up with the last group of replacements to arrive at his unit which was 14 days ago.

*Adel*

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1 PW from 4th Co, LEHMANN Battalion.  
27 PW from 1st and 2nd Co, LEHMANN Battalion.

Fourth co had 60 men, 8 heavy mg and three mortars.

The following heavy mg positions were given: 548555, 547557. There was also the indication that there were no more machine guns of this unit to the SE but any others would be to the NW flank. Mortar squad or possibly whole mortar platoon withdrew two days ago into LE GRAND BOIS.

The Co CP is at 554558 in a hut in the woods. The battalion CP is at 571562 in a farm building. The battalion aid station is at GRAND VIESING FARM at 572564. The trains are at HABKIRCHEN.

PW's in general have been careless in gas discipline, often not carrying their gas masks with them into combat. They have not received any new gas masks since entering service, nor have they received any recent or special instruction in chemical warfare.

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